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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/11/2011  
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [US](#) [UNHRC](#) [JA](#)  
SUBJECT: JAPAN "FAVORABLY CONSIDERING" PROFESSOR WEDGWOOD'S  
RE-ELECTION ON UNHRC; SEEKS CONSIDERATION FOR JAPAN'S  
CANDIDATE

REF: STATE 85722

Classified By: Pol MinCouns Mike Meserve for Reasons 1.4 b/d

(C) In response to reftel demarche, on June 5 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Human Rights Division's Yoriko Suzuki notified Post that while Japan will not make public its position on the various candidates, it is "favorably considering" re-electing Professor Ruth Wedgwood to the UN Human Rights Committee. Suzuki then said while Japan acknowledges that the U.S. does not enter into reciprocal support arrangements, MOFA was formally asking for U.S. support for Japan's UNHRC candidate, Professor Yuji Iwasawa. Japan intends to continue to lobby for U.S. support for Iwasawa in New York, Suzuki stated.  
SCHIEFFER